

June 7, 1984

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

H 5363

It is our hope that the conference will be able to complete action by mid-month. For the benefit of the Members, I will be updating our progress on the conference in the days and weeks to come.

**THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF LANDINGS ON NORMANDY**

(Mrs. BYRON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BYRON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues a very moving experience that 17 of our colleagues have experienced over the last 3 days.

We were privileged to accompany the chairman of the Veterans' Committee to Normandy to join in with many of our veterans, many of our military, and many of our Americans to commend the 40th anniversary of the landings on Normandy.

Those of us who had this opportunity have been very emotionally drained. We were given the privilege to meet with General Collins, General Van Fleet and General Gavin, those great leaders who took our troops ashore.

We were given an opportunity to visit Normandy and Utah, St. Mere Eglise, to watch the Rangers once again scale the cliffs at Pointe du Hoc. We finally climaxed yesterday afternoon with a very moving ceremony in the cemetery where we have left over 9,000 of our comrades at rest.

As one individual told me as we were leaving the cemetery, if they live to be 100, they will never have an experience like this.

I think we should all be so terribly thankful that we have those veterans who have come back, that we have those veterans that have laid to rest, but we should also be so terribly thankful that we have an America that stands up for what we know is right and protects us as it has.

**LEGISLATION TO EXPAND BENEFIT PROTECTIONS FOR FORMER CIA SPOUSES**

(Mr. MAZZOLI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MAZZOLI. Mr. Speaker, today, joined by my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WHITEHURST), I am introducing legislation to provide an annuity to former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) spouses who were divorced prior to the effective date of the CIA Spouses Retirement Equity Act of 1982—Public Law 97-269.

The 1982 statute, which allowed spouses who had been married to CIA officers for at least 10 years to obtain pension benefits in a divorce settlement, applied only prospectively. This was so because benefits awarded by the court in a divorce decree reduced the amount of the employee spouse's pension.

The legislation we introduce today would provide a small annuity payable directly from Treasury funds—not from the retirement and disability fund—to approximately 65 women who did not qualify for coverage under Public Law 97-269.

Our bill recognizes that these, mostly older, former spouses are no less entitled to recognition than their younger colleagues who qualified for assistance under the earlier bill. They have performed valuable and sometimes dangerous services for the United States, the nature of which has prevented them from acquiring job skills and earning pension rights in their own behalf.

Our bill would also readmit former CIA spouses to the Federal employee health benefits program, from which they were excluded at the time of divorce, upon payment of a sum equal to the Agency and employee share of the health plan premium.

These benefits are particularly important to older spouses because age and health problems often acquired abroad, render private health insurance exorbitantly expensive and in some cases completely unavailable.

I hope action on our measure is swift and uncomplicated.

**IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION: VOTE FOR THE RULE**

(Mr. GLICKMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GLICKMAN. Mr. Speaker, next week we will take up a very controversial bill, the immigration bill. The bill is controversial because the problems that it is trying to solve are also very controversial.

But I come down here today to urge my colleagues to vote for the rule. The rule on this bill will be open. In fact, it is probably going to be one of the most open rules I have ever seen since I have been in Congress. Every idea is permitted to be challenged. There will be amendments on employer sanctions, amendments on legalization, amendments on temporary workers. Members will have their chance to come down here and express their opinion on every part of this issue.

The issue of immigration will not go away. If we do not take it up next week the problems will be harder to resolve next year and the following year.

It is time to consider this bill. I understand there is a subterranean effort to try to kill the rule as a way to not deal with this bill. I think that is a very, very bad idea.

I would like to finally pay tribute to our colleague from Kentucky (Mr. MAZZOLI). He has dealt with an issue that is the most unpolitically sexy issue since I have been in this Congress, has shouldered this burden all by himself.

It is not to anybody's political advantage to be a proponent of the immigration bill, although it is one of the more serious problems we face, and I think Mr. MAZZOLI deserves credit for keeping this issue at the forefront of the policy issues we debate today.

**NICARAGUA**

(Mr. FOGLIETTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, the pleasantly surprising and unexpected stopover of Secretary of State Shultz in Nicaragua is an encouraging first act by the administration in its struggle with the Sandinistas. Although the time for direct, high-level meetings between the United States and Nicaragua came long ago, clearly it is not too late to begin now. Our enthusiasm for Mr. Shultz' initiative must, however, be tempered by caution.

The Congress and the American people have good reason to be skeptical of any sudden move toward a rapprochement with the Nicaraguans by the administration. Less than 1 month ago, the President referred to the Sandinista Government as "a Communist reign of terror." The New York Times has suggested that the opening of a dialog with the President of Nicaragua, Daniel Ortega, is linked to this body's refusal to fund the CIA backed Contra rebels. "With talks underway," the Times wrote, "the White House can contend that ending American support for the secret war robs Mr. Reagan of a vital bargaining card."

If the administration is serious about reducing tensions in the Central American region, it will find many willing partners, including Congress and the Contadora group. But the White House should not mistake this body's resolve on the issue of funding the Contra rebels. No White House action should allow this body to rationalize the resumption of assistance to the Contras. The road to peace in Central America lies not through threats of force, but through rational negotiations.

**INTEREST RATES**

(Mr. TAUZIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, recently Members of this body and I met with members of the German Bundestag in Austria. One of those members was in the process of buying a new home in the Federal Republic. I took the liberty of asking him what his interest rates on his new home were going to look like. He indicated to me between 6 and 8 percent. He also indicated to me that in the Federal Republic of Germany, members of the community

H 5364

## CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — HOUSE

June 7, 1984

save as much as 15 percent of their disposable income per year. That compares to 4.8 percent in America, the lowest savings rate since 1949.

It is time we learn a lesson from our good German friends. It is time we pass legislation to encourage Americans to save again. H.R. 5678 accomplishes that result by giving tax-free interest to Americans who save in low-interest passbook savings accounts, to encourage again low-interest rates in America. It is time we pass such good legislation.

#### TRIBUTE TO BERKLEY BEDELL FOR A JOB WELL DONE

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, too often, by the very nature of legislation, we deal with each other one on one in kind of a negative or adversarial relationship. Often when we say something positive about someone we wait until that someone is about to leave or has left us.

I would like to reverse that today, if I could, and say something kind, personally kind, in appreciation for a Member of this body who did a good job last week, a great job I think, on the armed services bill, the Department of Defense bill, and I am talking about our colleague from Iowa, BERKLEY BEDELL.

BERKLEY is not a member of that committee, and he suffered some anguish and some defeat from a few members because of that fact. But he tried time and time again to require the Pentagon to improve the bidding process so that small businesses could take part in Defense contracts, and even went so far as to suggest that architects' and engineers' fees might be considered as part of this defense reform process.

Now, BERKLEY did not win them all, but one Member would like to thank him for a job well done, and warn those who opposed him last week: I do not think he is through yet.

Thanks, BERKLEY.

#### H.R. 5145, THE HUMAN SERVICES AMENDMENTS OF 1984

(Mr. PETRI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, as the ranking Republican member of the subcommittee having jurisdiction over H.R. 5145, I urge all Members to vote against passing this bill under suspension of the rules today. While this bill contains many good features, it is simply too costly and controversial to consider on suspension.

This bill authorizes appropriations of some \$8 billion for a variety of Human Services programs. Such a major appropriation of public funds

deserves closer scrutiny than is permitted by the suspension process.

In addition, H.R. 5145 contains many controversial features that merit full debate by this body through the consideration of amendments. Perhaps the most glaring such feature is its early reauthorization of the Community Services Block Grant Act, which does not expire for 2 years. I would like to offer an amendment to H.R. 5145 to avoid the premature reauthorization of that block grant program so that my subcommittee can conduct a more detailed review of its operation. Unfortunately, the procedures used here today foreclose such an amendment.

When spending tax dollars, we owe it to our constituents to consider all reasonable amendments. I look forward to addressing the various components of this bill on their individual merits under an open rule later this month. Therefore, I urge you to vote against suspending the House rules for passing H.R. 5145.

#### FOOTWEAR PETITION FOR IMPORT RELIEF

(Ms. SNOWE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday the International Trade Commission rejected the petition filed by our domestic shoe industry and its workers for relief from the onslaught of imported shoes. The petition was unanimously opposed, an action I find shocking, unjustified, and senseless.

It is, frankly, disbelieving that the ITC has denied the petition based on the belief that the industry has shown sufficient profitability and productivity since the Orderly Marketing Agreements were lifted in 1981.

The Commission considered three questions in its decision—and to me the answers are clear. Are imports of nonrubber footwear increasing? Yes. Is the domestic industry seriously injured or threatened with serious injury? Yes. Are increased imports a substantial cause of serious injury? Yes.

Since the ITC refuses to either acknowledge or alleviate this travesty, I have introduced legislation which will protect our domestic shoe industry because administrative remedies have obviously failed. My bill is a straightforward solution—it imposes a ceiling on foreign shoes to no more than 50 percent of the American market—setting a cap at 400 million pairs yearly.

Finding no injury is astonishing where an industry is suffering 17.3-percent unemployment, where domestic production has dropped more than 50 percent during the past 15 years, where half the workers employed have lost their jobs, and where import penetration has reached 74 percent. As the Commission clearly refuses responsibility of protecting our shoe industry

from unfair trade practices, I, along with many of my colleagues, have accepted that task and will be working to insure its future.

#### THE STRUGGLE OF THE MISKITO INDIANS OF NICARAGUA

(Mr. LIVINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LIVINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday several of us met with Mr. Steadman Fagoth, the leader of the Miskito Indians of Nicaragua, who told us of the struggle of his people against the Sandinista regime, which has methodically burned Indian villages, expropriated Indian land, and killed Indian boys who dare to defend their desire for freedom.

Worse, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Fagoth reminded us that his struggle against Communist Sandinista oppression is being made without the help of the United States. Consequently, freedom fighters are dying in battle and refugee children, Indian children displaced from their villages by the Sandinistas, are starving to death.

While this Congress refuses to provide even humanitarian aid, the Soviet Union continues to pour military hardware into the Sandinista war machine. Tuesday's Washington Times reports that Communist bloc shipments arrived in Nicaragua in the last few weeks, including 40 T-54/55 medium tanks, 40 armored personnel carriers, and 100 SA-7 surface-to-air missiles.

Total arms shipments this year amount to 11,000 metric tons, twice that of the previous year.

Mr. Speaker, our failure to rally behind the Nicaraguan freedom fighters while people are dying by the hundreds because of Sandinista oppression is criminal.

#### H.R. 5504 UNFAIR TO RURAL STATES

(Mrs. SMITH of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, today the House will consider legislation to fund highway construction and repair programs across the Nation. As currently proposed, the bill would have a devastating impact on the highway programs in my State of Nebraska.

Because the bill eliminates the distance factor in the allocation formula for 4R interstate funds, Nebraska stands to lose more than \$2½ million in 1986. This change is being proposed despite a Department of Transportation study which shows that the present formula for allocating interstate funds is adequate.

Nebraska and other rural States are having enough problems with transportation. The airlines do not want to